Middle School Good Times

May 1995 Paw Paw Middle School $2.00 a year/ $.50 each

FAREWELL to PPMS

It's that time of the year again. Time to say farewell to the middle school and its staff. We appreciate the staff for giving us all their time and effort. We will miss you all.

To the 6th and 7th graders we say enjoy the activities and sports now because you may not make the high school sport without the middle school practice. We will miss you too. Enjoy the school while you can. Don't always think it's as bad as it looks. It's what's inside that counts. In our school at least teachers can make time to help you and talk to you when you need it.

ON THE TRACK WITH TRACK

Paw Paw coaches this season are Tim Smith and Kristi Owens.

The eighth graders include Justin Avery, Jason Babin, Adam Bartells, Erin Bell, Casey Charters, Dawn Dean, Jeff Dillenbeck, Andrew Goodman, Randy Hendricksen, Jenny Hulbert, Jenny Jennings, Paul Lounsbury, Sarah Mitchell, Warner Offord, Suzzanne Overacker, Rene Rennhack, Weston Selent, Lindsey Smith, Mandi Thomasma, Julie Vesey, Heidi Wilhelmi,and Dave Williams.

The sev enth graders are MAggie Coleman, Lance Danca, Don Dean, Anne DeCou, Courtney Dunn, Anthony Edwards, Paul Farber, Julie Fuhrman, Brandon Hewitt, MArk Houghton, Melissa Kovach, Tracey Miller, Matt Mitchell, Angela Peat, Michelle Rains, Laura Sutherland, Jenny Tenant, and Jason Wilhelmi.

PPMS TAKES a THIRD at STATE

At the State Science Olympiad April 29, everyone tried their hardest and we came away with one third place medal in the Pentathalon. The Pentathalon team consisted of Jeff Hodges, Jessica Price, Andrew Alexander and Amy Baltmanis.

Each of these people had to do a physical event and after their physical event, they had to answer a question. They all did a final event together and answered a question. It was a timed event and if they missed a question, they would get two minutes added to their time. Though they didn't miss a question, they were edged out by faster teams.

The whole team at the state meet had a really good day and enjoyed the experience even though they'd have liked to have won more events.

a. alexander

21 FLAG POLES IN MEMORIAL PARK ... THIS WEEK-END

Everyone knows about the park across the street from the middle school. But not everyone knows what the purpose of the park really is.

The park is a monument for all the deceased war veterans of the great wars. The park is being paid for by the American Legion and the Sons of the American Legion. p.2

Memorial Park will cost around $700,000 so let's appreciate their efforts.

21 flag poles should be set up by May 29-30 for Memorial Day. The S.A.L. (Sons of the American Legion) willl march on the day the park is going to be opened, or Memorial week-end which ever comes first.

Two of our middle schoolers will be marching, Patrick Brink and Steve Boucher, both members of the S.A.L. We hope you and your families will come to the event.

s. boucher

AWARDS ASSEMBLY SUCCESS

Over 600 awards wer e given out at the awards assembly May 5 in the middle school auditorium.

Mrs. A. Smith and Mrs. Kalisiak did a tremendous task organizing all the awards and presenting them in an orderly and efficient manner.

Awards were given for scholastic achievement in various subjects as well as for perfect attendance, effort, and all A's. Awards were also given for volunteer service and for MEAP score successes. 8th graders were also receiving Presidential awards for educational excellence.

Art and language arts works were on display in the halls and refreshments served in the hallway. Decorations were provided by the PTO.

VOLLEYBALL TEAM MEMBERS

This is what can only be called "olds" not news... but we never had the list to publish before so here it is.

The A team consisted of Jenny Tenant, Lindsey Mendenhall, Sarah Carr, Stacie Kennedy, Nelly Kuntz, Treasa Gerard, Samantha Allen, Kim Holcomb, Brandi Coyer, Angela Peat, Jessica Stutz, Bianca Cross, Alison Surdy, and Kristen Millek.

The B team were Jenna WRight, Heather Sumner, Laura Sutherland, Elaine Bussema, Angelina Holt, Paula Hopson, Angela Creameans, Maria Barnes, Julie Fuhrman, Anne DeCou, Jessie Abrams, Patti Wheat, Courtney Dunn and Laura Monroe.

by s.a. and a.h.

QUOTABLE QUOTES OVERHEARD

We all have different speech patterns. Here are some of the mildest to the wildest expressions heard from teachers.

Mrs. Firestone is heard yelling, "OUT, Now!" every day at 7th grade lunch. When you ask Mrs. Beyer a question like, "Where do we put the extra credit papers," she may say, "Arrahhh...!" Mrs. Baltmanis, when provoked, says, "I've about had it with you guys!" (those in 2nd hour know...) Mr. Snyder when in need of the class's attention says, "Whoa!" or "Halt!"

Now when they need to tell a class to be quiet we find Mrs. Pasman saying, " Not now." Mr. Lutz says, "Don't talk. Save it till the end." And last in this category is Mrs. Archambault who says, "You owe me a diet coke."

I have found that some

teachers have weird ways to saying what and answering raised hands. Mrs. Swanson says, "Say what?" Mr. Watterworth says, "A whatty whooty?" And Mr. Erickson will say, "Hello?" to raised hands.
c. crowder

EIGHTH GRADE TRAVELS NORTH

The eighth grade trip will be to Michigan's Adventure on Monday, June 5. They will leave the middle school at 8 and return around 6.

The cost for the day is $7.00 and students will be bringing lunches but may also purchase food at the concession stands.

This spring they have added a new water park ride and some new amusement park rides. The water park is open from 11 to 3 while the park will be open from 10 to 4 that day.

Swimsuits must be worn in the water park, not cut-off jeans.

Chaperones will include Mr. Erickson, Mr. Edinger, Mrs. Beyer, Mrs. Markovich, Mrs. Dobbs, Miss Colegrove and Mrs. Swanson as well as a few parents who are willing to help .

This will be the last eighth grade get-togther event.
m.johnson

DEAR SAM IS DEAD

Dear Sam died last week from a heart attack after reading letters from middle schoolers. We will all miss him. Those of you who don't know him, he was a terrific guy.

His daughter Dearest Samantha may replace him... or Filbert may take the job until she is ready.

a.reidt

EIGHTH GRADE ANNUAL SUCCESS MAY 20 in cafeteria

The twenty-first annual Annual was held this past week-end. The dance, which began as a dressy sock-hop in the gym, in 1975, has grown considerably over the years.

Mrs. Baker (now Stenner and living in Florida) was in charge when it began. Later the dance was moved to the cafeteria and the hallway for a more formal atmosphere .

Mrs. Dobbs and Mrs. Swanson remember when the dance refreshments were whatever the student council members and they could purchase in a quick run to Shopping Center the afternoon of the dance. Those days the decorations were only crepe paper streamers and carnations on the tables.

Slowly the event has evolved to what it was this year.. a gala event with great decorations, great refreshments, good music, and lots of welcomed- parental involvement. In fact, it is now the PTO who co-sponsor the dance with the student council and Mrs. Dobbs and Mrs. Swanson need only chaperone.

Thanks to all for another wonderful dance/final party for the eighth graders.

6th GR. BAND CONCERT JUNE 1-

The last concert of the year for anyone in the middle school will be given Thursday, June 1.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND A WELCOME TO THE FRESHMAN of 99

The staff at Paw Paw High School would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new freshmen. We have heard many positive things about you and are looking forward to meeting you next fall.

The incoming freshmen are invited to attend our "Hello-Goodbye" dance on Friday, June 9.

The dance will run from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m. This will be the first dance for the incoming freshmen and the last dance for the graduating seniors. The cost is $3.

Those freshmen who are panning to participate in athletics next fall are reminded they are required to have a physical before they can begin practicing with the team.

We hope that everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer. If you have questions, please call the high school office at 657-8840.

GOOD TIMES STAFF of 94-95

Class of 99 members included the following: Jamie Alleman, Ahlea STreich, Rosemary Beyer, Heather Houston, Missy Johnson, Kate O'Keefe, Winonah LaGrande, Andy Goodman, Justin Avery, Jake Greensly, Tess Terpstra, Megan Abbott, Steve Boucher, Kerrie Hamilton, Angela Reidt, Tara Sirrine, Corey Vyverman, Brent Latta, Todd Freeman, and Alison Hathaway.

The class of 2000 and 2001 members were : Sarah Lounsbury, Tabitha Staggs, Kim Holcomb, PAtti Wheat, Michele Rains, Jon Ayres, Bethany Howell, Andrew Alexander, Jack Conway, Samantha Allen, Angelina Holt, Angela Creameans, Denyse Varnesdeel, Joy Shinabarger, Natalie Alden, Lindsey Forward, Dan Shreve, Dustin Mount, and Casey KErns.

SEE YA 8th GRADERS! From a 7th grader's view point

The 8th grade is departing our school in a week or so. They will pack their bags, say farewell and hit the road. Yes! The 7th grade will rule.

DEAR FILBERT,

I am 12 and I am losing my hair. It's falling out, Can you suggest something to keep it in?

Help. me.

DEAR ME,

All I can think of is a paper bag. Have a nice day.

DEAR FILbert,

How does the jelly get into the doughnut?

ABEL

DEAR ABE,

Finally a question that boggles my brilliant (that's what the name Filbert means) mind. Sorry.

DEAR FILBERT,

Why isn't the middle school condemned?

?

DEAR ?,

Beats me. Perhaps parents think it's a nice place to learn about falling bricks etc.

DEAR FILBERT,

Can Peter Piper pick a peck of pickled peppers?

PP

DEAR PP,

Yes, of course he can. Question is why does he want to?

Dear Filbert,

What's going on? I think things are going really bad. Students are more hyper than ever. I really need to do better in my classes. Is there any way I can do better in my classes without joining everyone else?

From C's to A's

Dear From,

Well, I think that you should just remember that everyone isn't your life. To raise your your grades maybe try to take a little time on the bus or something to study. I f you don't understand, just ask you friend Heather. She's the smart one.

HOW WILL YOU SPEND YOUR SUMMER VACATION?

Angie Ferrari will go up north with her cousins and go to camp at Wesley Woods. Carrie Kowalczyk will pick blueberries and maybe go to an arts camp. Amy Baltmanis will go to Traverse City State Basketball CAmp.

Josh Dunham plans to detassle while Casey Charters will babysit and work at the ball field. Ahlea Streich also will babysit and mow lawns. Nick Kuntz will scoop cow manure for his dad. He plans to go to Miracle Camp. Tess Terpstra heads for Band Camp. Kerrie Hamilton will make elephant ears.

Tasha Higgins will work as an assistant with her mom. She plans to go to Texas for vacation. Paula Herpson will go to VBYC. Jenny Tenant will take care of animals and maybe go to volleyball camp. Angela Peat will also be headed for Van Buren Youth Camp. Sarah Carr will go to Hoosiers basketball camp.

Elaine Bussema will babysit and go to basketball camp. Cindy Coulson will go to Wesley Woods camp and to North Carolina and three amusement parks.

Have a nice summer !

ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS/ WHAT TO DO? HOW TO COPE

We were asked to write about abusive relationships. Since this question was asked by a teen , we figured it was a boyfriend, girlfriend type of abuse. We did what research we could do and here's what we found.

There are several different kinds of abuse. You can emotionally, verbally. sexually and physically abuse someone. You can also be abused by someone if they are isolating, acting possessive, threatening and intimidating them. You can also abuse or be abused if someone destroys someone's stuff,

Here is the most typical fact about abuse. No matter what kind of abuse you take or get, the victim always feels as if they deserve it or that it was their own fault.

Physical abuse can escalate to become murder. 30% of women murder victims are murdered by husbands or boyfriends. 20% of

ABUSE continued

these victims are between the ages of 12 and 24.

Sexual abuse reveals some pretty ugly beliefs. 24% of boys and 16% of girls thought it was understandable to force a girl to have sex if the boy spends up to $15 on the girl. This is abuse at its sneakiest level. It's date rape.

Anyone who feels they are in an abusive relationship, whether it's sexual, emotional, or physical abuse should report that abuse and get help immediately. Things don't get better by ignoring them.

Students may want to tell a teacher or counselor or a neighbor they trust. Abuse victims need to know it IS wrong and they are NOT to blame. The abuser is.

THE TWO HOUR SCHEDULE

by j. conway (a middle school fantasy tale...with some reality)

Once upon a time there was a really old building. In this building was a middle school. The staff were confused about the next year's schedule.. as confused as the students.

The end of the year approached. For some reason, someone decided to lose an hour of the day and lenthen the other hours. They hired an out-of-town administrator to make this schedule.

Weeks passed as did several possible silly schedules.. The teachers were peeved. The reason given for this schedule business was a balanced budget. To achieve this they" needed " to cut staff.

"Who will it be?" everyone asked, including students who were asking if they could suggest who should go. "Should it be the tutors?" (but they weren't counted in the teaching staff numbers)

A new schedule arrived... draft # 300045. The envelope was amazingly light. The teachers tore through it like a razor through a chubby dude. Inside was a centimeter-wide slip of paper. The writing was blurred and sloppy. of course. The school then hired a linguist to decipher the text. (There goes the budget.) The two hours on the slip were, "Test-taking Skills" and "Literature" (aka reading?)

This sad story continues and to this date (5-10-95) had not been solved.

(Update: The out-of-town scheduler has given up. Next year may look a lot like this year ...we think.)

EXAMS AROUND THE CORNER

Exam days are the half days the 7th , 8th and 9th of June. Just which tests will be given on which of those days will be announced.

CLASS OF 99 ELECTS OFFICERS

Amy Baltmanis is the new president of the freshman class. Vice-president is Paul Lounsbury ,. secretary Jericho Groenland and Andy Goodman is treasurer. Megan Frazier and Dave Williams are class representatives. Alternates will be Sarah Houghton, Jake Arndt and Winonah LaGrande.

EIGHTH GR. SURVEY 95

WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT PPMS and WHY?

Shane Carpenter will miss " most of the teachers because they are very nice. (Mrs. Beyer, Mrs. Meach and Mrs. Markovich) and lots more." Megan Frazier agreed with many who said as she did, "I'll miss being the oldest in the school."

Jessy Lossie will miss " all the teachers like Mrs. C. Smith, Mrs. Pasman and Mrs. Swanson in class or in the halls." Angela Reidt will miss "going up and down the stairs everyday and the teachers and nasty bathrooms." Rachel Croy will miss " my teachers who helped me when I needed it and were always there for me." Sarah Heuser too will miss the " teachers because they are always there to help you."

Stephanie VanLoon will miss" the bathroom grafitti and Mr. Edinger's jokes." Alison Hathway will miss " my teachers. They have tried to teach me a lot. Mainly I will miss Mrs. Swanson who has helped me a lot through my 8th gr. year." Stacey Charron will miss "Mrs. Beyer.. the best teacher." Robert Strong will miss" one or two of the teachers - 7th gr. science teacher and 8th gr. l.a. teacher. "

Heather Houston will miss" Mr. Edinger's jokes because it made me realize there are stupider jokes out there than mine." Lynn Darr will miss " the teachers, especially Mr. Edinger." Mandi Thomasma too will "miss the teachers because they are so nice." Tess Terpstra will miss" Mrs. Swanson and T. K. because they were the ones I liked best." Jessica Baugher will miss," How the teachers make teaching fun and I'll especially miss Mr. Snyder cause he made science fun for me."

Jon McCormick says, "It was fun. It went by fast and we were the big boys of the school and the teachers were cool." Ginnie Moore will miss " My favorite teacher, Mrs. Beyer." David Michael Williams will miss" all the pigeons on the tower, the great paint job in the auditorium and Mr. Edinger's music. (truthfully)." Shawn Winnell will miss " the teachers because they're nice and some of their classes are easy."

Paul Lounsbury will miss" the teachers because I've gotten used to them and found I like them all." Mykolas Nanevicius will miss," D.S. because it gives more time for homework." Casey Wentzel will miss "going out to play football,." Matt Lawson will miss " the dances , the activity night and all the nice teachers."

Brent Latta will miss" the newspaper staff because it's been a lot of fun." Brad Fluty will miss" all my teachers because they helped me learn more than I thought I could." Mandy Pyard will miss" my teachers and mostly Mr. Snyder and Mr. MArtin and the activities we did as an entire school." Sarah Houghton will miss" Mrs. Swanson cause she's a good teacher and nice person."

WHAT WE'LL MISS MOST
continued...

Katrina Carothers will miss "all the staff members who encourage you to be the best and try your hardest. You get so close to them, they're like second parents." Andrew Kissinger agreed. He said,"Some of them want you to be successful." Lewis Fritts said, " I will miss seeing Mrs. Beyer teach her classes." Juanita Gonzalez agreed and said, "she'd also miss Mrs. Markovich and Mrs. Meach."

Tasha Higgins will miss "the creakin' floors and hearin' the desks move around up above when I'm in Mr. Cassell's fifth hour." Nick Hess will miss "being the oldest and having people look up to me." Heidi Wilhelmi will miss" this corny newspaper." Jessica Price and Chris Tapper will miss the (impromptu) "parties in Mrs. Swanson's class."

John Frey will miss seeing Mr. Aubry take bricks off the property in a wheel barrow." Jenny Jennings will miss " the movies in Mrs. Brown's class." Missy Johnson will miss" most of my teachers, especially Mrs. Swanson and Mr. Kannegieter. I'll miss all the crazy dances, Mrs. Brown's music., and I'll miss German and newspaper."

Sarah Mitchell will miss" all of my teachers, Mr. Snyder especially. And I'll kind of miss the school itself, being here for three years and all." Stacy Waller will miss" Mrs. Beyer cause she has always been there for me. She is a a person people can count on." Martha Rohrbacher will miss" all of the nice teachers like Mr. Snyder and Mrs. Swanson. I'll also miss being the oldest in the school."

Scott Opalka will miss" the fences that make the school look so much like a mental institution."Tom Cogswell will miss" the falling bricks and fenced-in school.:" Joe Ritsema will miss "Mrs. Markovich and Mrs. Beyer." Josh Ernstes will miss "Mr. Topp, Mrs. Swanson and Mr. Snyder."

David Kiggins will miss" recess because I usually need a break from it all and being in the biggest grade. I'm going somewhere where I'll be the smallest again, like in the 6th grade." Brandon High will miss" riding the bus an extra mile from the high school because it always takes a couple of minutes." Suzzanne Overacker will miss" Mr. Edinger's jokes because they are always so good."

Joe Boven will miss " all the times we had together playing basketball with each other." Tasha Ogden will miss" Mrs. Beyer, the kindest teacher I've had in four schools."

ADVICE TO THE 5TH-7TH GRADE

Kevin Kirby says," Have alot of friends and don't hang out with only one type of crowd." Jessica Beck says," Respect the teachers and do your hoemwork... and you'll do good. Stay out of the bathrooms."

Scott Wielenga says," Watch out for falling bricks."

ADVICE continued

Ahlea Streich says," Don't get Mrs. Swanson, Mrs. Dobbs, or Mr. Erickson mad. MRs. Swanson may be small but she's got a good pair of lungs." Amanda Yonkman says,"Cover your heads and use the bathroom at home before you come."

Ken Rushing suggests" Get Mrs. Swanson for LA . She's good but fairly easy on homework... Don't goof off cause they're more willing to write you up than the 7th grade teachers." Lee Krefman says,"Bring a sack lunch. " Andy Goodman says," Laugh at Mr. Edinger's jokes. It may eb the only time you're not working all day."

Kate O'Keefe says, "Some people will tell you that Mrs. Dobbs is mean but that's not true. She is really nice. She is just slightly strict with students who don't do their work." Josh Dunham says," Be nice to the other kids because someday they may be bigger than you." Dawn Dean says": Watch for falling bricks."

Jeff Hodges says," Don't try to be cool. If you're cool, you're cool. If you're not, you're not. Trying to be too cool will just get you a lot of after-class lectures. It's not worth it." Kerrie Hamilton says "Easiest way to pas your classes is to do the homework."

Nick Kuntz warns, "Don't get Mrs. Beyer mad, don't get caught throwing stuff and don't run in the halls." Jessica Baugher says,"Remember your comb." Brad Fluty says,"Try and act like an eighth grader. Don't play childish games." Katrina Carothers advises,"Give the school a break. They have enough problems." Missy Johnson warns," Mr. Edinger's room is always cold because the windows are always open." Sarah Mitchell says," Do all your work and plan a lot of parties in Mrs. Swanson's room." John Frey sums up the advice by saying,"Wear hard hats."

AS IF YOU WERE MAKING OUT YOUR WILL, WHAT WOULD YOU LEAVE TO WHOM AND WHY?

Brian Winters leaves,"My seat in Mrs. Beyer's class." Geoffrey Reid leaves " My singing ability to the 6th grade for future enrollment in choir." Dereik Bell leaves " my face imprinted on the wall and money to fix the school... 2.2. billion. Why?" Jim Vanden Beldt leaves," my ceiling tile that I made in art class."

Kristen Cooper leaves," MAggie Coleman and Brandon Hewitt my locker and everything in it." Josh Will leaves," My self since I probably won't pass." Desiree Summerville leaves " my literature book to my sister because I want to." Shaun Sparks leaves," to Lindsey I'll try to talk numbers 1, 4,5, and 2 into going out with her." Justin Nelson leaves," my social studies and algebra book to Luke Harling." Randy Hendrixson leaves," my sister Mr. Edinger for a personal tutor." Weston Selent leaves,"My algebra book."

Sara Gray leaves" my locker downstairs to the next person who is in a wheelchair or can't climb stairs." Rene Rennhack leaves," my messy locker to my brother Richie."

Jeff Dillenbeck leaves," Old papers I don't need any more." Megan Abbott leaves," my large locker to Abram Beyer because Rosemary always wanted my locker and I want to tick her off!" Steve Boucher leaves," a picture of me and three of my friends in locker 317 for who ever gets it next year."

Amber Duncan leaves" a lot of good luck to my brother because he will definitely need it. Jake Arndt leaves his brother" the memories all the teachers here have of me." Justin Avery leaves," Mr. Edinger's music to who ever enjoys banjos." Mandy Pyard leaves ,"My ceiling tile by Mr. Martin's room to call the kids who are lucky enough to have him."

Mandi Thomasma leaves," my text books to Chris Peshl and my locker # 369 to my buddy Juan Seidel." Rachel Croy leaves," my locker to my sister Rebekah Croy." John Clark (aka Gebediah Vezaguzi) leaves," the John Clark Foundation for any guy beaten by his girl friend." Erin Jordan leaves " all my old lockers and teachers to my brother Evan who'll be in 6th grade next year."

Jericho Groenland leaves," my trajectory machine to the Science Olympiad team because it's the best." Erin Bell leaves," my locker to Jennifer Lakey." Dave Holzworth leaves," the dirty pair of socks in the locker room for Sockless Joe Jenson." Don Sellon leaves" my tiny skinny 3" locker to Jeff Stull because when a 6th grader is out to beat him up, he'll be able to hide in it."

Amy Baltmanis leaves," ,y basketball to the 7th grade boys because they need all the help they can get." Josh Tessar leave those same 7th graders, "all my basketball skill because they ain't got any." Shane Carpenter leaves," a Faber-Castell American #2 pencil to Mrs. Beyer." Stephanie Van Loon leaves "my brother Nathan to Mrs. Dobbs." Jon McCormick leaves " a lot of things to Denny Lhamon to be laminated."

Tess Terpstra leaves " my brother Dirk . Yes!! And to Mr. Kannegieter my watch. Ha! Ha!" Jessica Beck leaves " my awesome locker 412 to Karl L:eslie." Julie Vesey leaves " my locker to whomever gets it because it actually opens pretty good." Andy Goodman leaves," Mrs. Dobbs and Mr. Edinger a new assortment of tapes."

Amanda Yonkman leaves," My ceiling tile to everyone so they can see what real art is (nothing to my brother.)" Jessica Price and Heidi Wilhelmi leave " Guyz Illustrated to all the 7th and 8th grade girls next year.. and our newspaper for the newspaper." Stacey Waller leaves"my desk in Mrs. Beyer's room to Jessica Ross cause she is a cool little girl."

WILLS...

Angela Reidt leaves " my locker to my sister Paulette." Tasha Higgins leavesher locker to "Ambra Holman locker #461." Jessy Lossie leaves " my old algebra papers to Angela Peat, my very small locker to Amber Wheatley and all of Mr. Edinger's jokes to the 7th graders.

Casey Charters leaves " my locker to Ryan Shannon. Maybe when he is in 8th grade he'll look like his brother." Sarah Mitchell also leaves her brother Mathew her locker." Jeff Hodges leaves" my hair clippers to J.B. Thorstenson so he'll get a haircut. Some of my basketball skill to Chris Peshl and the rest of the 7th grade team because we all know they can use all the help they can get."

FINE

The final concert this year of the 7th and 8th grade Cadet Band was given Wednesday night.

The songs played included "Marches of the Armed Forces", "Disney Blockbuster", "Bill's Boogie", "American Patrol", "Buena Vista" and "Colonel Bogey."

Two of the piece played were multi-pieces : "Marches of the Armed Forces" and "Disney Blockbusters", which was an arrangement of the songs,"Under the Sea", "Beauty and the Beast", "Friend Like Me", and "A Whole New World."

AG and MA

TO THE EDITOR:

(We received this letter this week and want to share it with our readers.)

I would like to congratulate the Paw Paw Middle School newspaper staff for an outstanding April 1 issue. (Vol. 21 #4).

Having worked for a newspaper, as a typesetter and proofreader and as a reporter, I read each issue of the Middle School Good Times with interest. Your April issue was well-written, funny and interesting. The articles were relevant and included many different people and names, which is good as most people read the paper to see if they are mentioned. The humor was clever and funny, not mean-spirited. Although each article showed creativity, I particularly liked"Eighth Grade Optional..." and was very relieved to read that Mr. Aubry was not retiring.

I look forward to your next issue. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Kristina Powers Aubry (Mrs. Aubry).

CLASS OF 99 ELECTS OFFICERS

Amy Baltmanis is the new class president while Paul Lounsbury will be vice-president. Secretary is Jericho Groenland and treasurer Andy Goodman. The reps are Megan Frazier and Dave Williams. Alternates are Sarah Houghton, Winonah LaGrande and Jake Arndt.

DARE TO DREAM THE IMPOSSIBLE...by W. LaGrande

Dare to dream the impossible,
Wish on every star,
Reach for the unreachable
I promise you'll go far.

Cross your fingers behind your back,
Fly as high as you can,
Ride on every pearl-white cloud
And capture the heart of a man.

Slay every invisible dragon you meet,
Scare every lion with a mouse,
Visit all the unicorns
Invite them to your house.

Before you declare me crazy or mad
Listen to what I say,
Then throw a coin in the wishing well,
Because magic is the way.

Don't judge a book by its cover,
Likewise a person by skin
Just listen real hard to the music they make,
And look for the beauty within.

THE FIFTH GRADERS LOOK AHEAD TO FALL and PPMS

Willy Quantz ,Christina Burke, Lindsey Dalga, Jessica Krefman, and Mary Kate Oberlies wrote the top five essays, but it was really hard to choose among them. Many fine beginning writers will be coming from Cedar Street.

Willy writes," You get to switch from class to class. There will be so much more to do! ...Middle school will give us so much more homework but that will end up okay. ..You don't have to have your stuff in a desk. You can just take a book to each subject. ...You'll be so busy it will drive you crazy! But it will be exciting anyway!

Jessica writes," extraordinarily different because we will be switching classes more often and we will have an enormous amount of teachers. It would be far from a lie to say that I am excited. My teeth are grinding with excitement, with anxiety, and I'm filled with joy!.. Next year will be fun and may be even scarey. The summer just can't go fast enough. I'm on my way to middle school."

Mary Kate thinks," it will be weird because you have a locker and you have to go to room to room. Fun ... because you have skating parties and Halloween parties... scarey if you can't open your locker! It's fun that you will get a time called TAG to finish homework... we get home earlier... It would be scarey if you're shy like me. I can't wait for next year..I guess."

Christina says,"I'm looking forward to meeting the teachers and getting to know more people. I'm excited about all the homework, too. (Not!) I guess I'm really ready for middle school even though sometimes I feel like I'm not."

Lindsey Dalga writes," it will be exciting to switch classes and you get more teachers. It will also feel good that you're not a little kid anymore. ....It will be kind of weird to be in a school that is so old. I also like the fact that I get to be with older kids. It's going to be great!"

Looking in a Mirror

When you look
into a mirror
you see yourself.
You may think
you're ugly. fat.
or stupid. but
you're not.
When you see that
you're seeing what

you think other people
see. But it's not true.
You are what
know you are. not
what other people think
you are.
So next time you look into
a mirror see what you
know you are.
A wonderful person.

by Sara Gray

Friends

Friends till the end.
Friends from the start.
Friends forever.
Friends in our hearts.
A friend will lend a helping hand
To show you that they care.
A friend will help you
Anytime. anyplace. anywhere.
Friends till the end.
Friends from the start.
Friends forever.
Friends in our hearts.

by Sara Gray